



# **The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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## **DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

### NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.T.E. 05-69

October 19, 2005

Petition of Bay State Gas Company requesting approval of a Special 2005/2006 Heating Season Weatherization Rebate Program.

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On October 6, 2005, Bay State Gas Company ("Bay State") filed with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") a petition to implement a rebate program for the 2005/2006 heating season that would enable customers to take steps to reduce their energy bills by installing basic weatherization materials such as weather-stripping, caulking, door sweeps, and pipe insulation. The maximum rebate is \$25, which may be redeemed by a mail-in rebate form along with a customer affidavit of installation, original UPC codes and copies of receipts. Bay State will have the right to perform spot inspections of participating customers and the rebate form will release the company from liability for installations.

Bay State projects that there will be ten (10) therms of savings per participating customer. Bay State proposes an estimated budget of \$700,000 with a projected 25,000 participating customers, resulting in an estimated savings of 250,000 therms. Bay State asserts that the weatherization measures contemplated by its proposed rebate program are cost-effective.

To fund this program, Bay State proposes to reallocate funds from its budget for residential energy efficiency programs approved by the Department on September 13, 2004 in Bay State Gas Company, D.T.E. 04-39 (2004). Should there be customer uptake beyond Bay State's estimated participation, Bay State seeks to recover attendant costs through the existing conservation charge mechanism.

Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Thursday, October 27, 2005**. All written comments must be filed with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, as follows: an original and four (4) copies with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary. In addition, one (1) copy of all comments must be sent to counsel for Bay State, Emmett E. Lyne, Esq., Rich May, PC, 176 Federal Street, Boston, MA 02110-2223.

All comments should also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to [dte.efiling@state.ma.us](mailto:dte.efiling@state.ma.us) and to [Shaela.Collins@state.ma.us](mailto:Shaela.Collins@state.ma.us); or (2) on a 3.5" disk, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.T.E. 05-69), (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing, and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be created in either Corel WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, or as an Adobe-compatible PDF file. Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. Documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's Website, <http://www.mass.gov/dte>.

Bay State's filing is available for inspection at the Department's offices during business hours (Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Copies are also available for inspection at Bay State's office, 300 Friberg Parkway, Westborough, Massachusetts 01581. Any person desiring further information regarding Bay State's filing should contact Emmett E. Lyne, Esq., at (617) 556-3800. Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact Shaela McNulty Collins, Hearing Officer, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, at (617) 305-3500.

Bay State shall serve a copy of this notice upon the service list in D.T.E. 04-39, and to any person who has filed a request for notice with Bay State, no later than **Thursday, October 20, 2005**, and make return of service at the close of the comment period.

By Order of the Department,

/s/  
MARY L. COTTRELL, SECRETARY